

Education



Education Is Power

By THOMAS E. WILSON, PH.D.

It is a sad commentary about our educational system that it keeps announcing both publicly and privately that "good" and "poor" teachers cannot be distinguished one from the other. Probably no issue in education has been so thoroughly researched as has teacher effectiveness and considerations which enhance or restrict this effectiveness. Nonetheless, we still read that we cannot

tell the good guys from the bad guys. Research on teacher effectiveness states that "the problem of teacher effectiveness is so complex that no one today knows what the competent teacher is. I think we do know what the competent, effective, or good teacher is.

A good teacher is a good person. Simple and true. A good teacher rather likes life, is reasonably at peace with

himself/herself, has a sense of humor, and enjoys other people. If I interpret the research correctly, what it says is that there is no one best teacher - than - all - others type of teacher. Nonetheless, there are clearly distinguishable "good" and "poor" teachers. Among other things, a good teacher is good because he/she does not seem to be dominated by a narcissistic self which demands a spotlight, or a neurotic need for power and authority, or a host of anxieties and tremblings which reduce him/her from the master of his/her class to its mechanic.

A good teacher sees himself/herself as identified with people rather than withdrawn, removed, apart from, or alienated from others.

A good teacher feels basically adequate rather than inadequate. He/she does not see himself/herself as generally unable to cope with problems.

The good teacher feels trustworthy rather than untrustworthy. He/she sees himself/herself as reliable, dependable individuals with the potential for coping with events as they happen.

A good teacher sees himself/herself as wanted rather than unwanted. He/she sees himself/herself as likable and attractive (in a personal, not a physical sense) as opposed to feeling ignored and rejected.

A good teacher sees himself/herself as worthy rather than un-

CCCC Offers Special Christmas Gift

Dr. Paul E. Meacham, President of CCCC, announced a program being offered by the College which will help the people of Las Vegas buy that special gift for that special person. "It's often a problem in deciding what to buy as a gift for the holiday giving season," said Dr. Meacham, "and we

worthy. He/she sees himself/herself as people of consequence, dignity, and integrity as opposed to feeling that he/she matters little.

The good teacher is flexible. By far the single most repeated word in all of the research is "flexibility." Either implicitly or explicitly this characteristic emerges time and again over all others when good teaching is discussed in the research. In other words, the good teacher does not seem to be overwhelmed by a single point of view or approach. A good teacher knows that he/she cannot be just one sort of person and use just one kind of approach if he/she intends to meet the multiple needs of his/her students.

Good teachers are, in a sense, "total" teachers. That is, they seem able to move with the shifting tides of their own needs, the student's, and do what has to be done to handle the situation. A total teacher can be firm when necessary or permissive when appropriate. It depends on many things, and good teachers seem to know the difference.

believe that CCCC can solve that problem by providing the gift of knowledge through its gift certificate program. "A gift certificate for classes at CCCC will allow the person receiving the certificate to start the New Year with an adventure in learning and it will provide for a memory of a lifetime." The gift certificates can be purchased in any amount and are applicable to any course offered at either the Cheyenne or Henderson Campus of CCCC. Purchasers can buy a \$20.50 gift certificate worth one credit hour of study. Much like certificates offered by local stores, CCCC's variety is timely because the College's spring

semester begins in January. The certificates would make great "stocking stuffers" and would tie in nicely as a companion gift for those parents who are buying a home computer for their children. CCCC offers an excellent computer concepts course for beginning computer buffs as well as courses in general college subjects, business, allied health and vocational technical subjects.

Certificates may be purchased at the cashier's office on the Cheyenne campus and will be valid for the Spring semester 1985. For information on the CCCC "Gift of Knowledge" certificate, please call 643-6060, ext. 428.

CCCC Schedules Spring Class Registration

Registration for the Spring Term at Clark County Community College will begin its drive with the kick-off at the Meadows Mall Shopping Center on Jan. 4 and 5, 1985 and the Boulevard Mall Shopping Center on the following weekend, the 11th and 12th of Jan., 1985.

Registration will then be conducted on the Cheyenne Campus in North Las Vegas during the week of Jan. 21 thru 25; with registration at the Henderson Campus on Jan. 23 and 24.

Plan to register now for courses at the Clark County Community College. "Learn and Live" by attending a course at CCCC.

Jan. 15 deadline for scholarships

The President's Committee on Mental Retardation (PCMR) is offering a \$5,000 scholarship for advanced study in the area of mental retardation.

Deadline for application is Jan. 15.

Directed to university and college seniors and graduate students in education, social science, medicine, nursing, biological science, psychology and physical therapy programs, the award carries several requirements.

Applicants must have: a documented 3.0 GPA, significant volunteer activities with the mentally retarded, good moral

character, acceptance into a graduate program, a letter of recommendation from the college dean, economic need, and United States citizenship.

Established in 1966, the PCMR evaluates programs and reviews legislative proposals that affect the mentally retarded. It coordinates federal agency activities in mental retardation and promotes research.

For more information, contact the chairman of the PCMR Scholarship Award Committee, Fred Rose, at 205 Beachway Drive, Ocean Ridge, Fla., 33435.



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